

Photo by Senior Airman Shaun Emery

Senior Airman Pamela Bolton, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, guards an entry control point outside of the Air Force housing area.

Security forces guard gates, protect Air Force resources

By Senior Airman **Shaun Emery** 332nd AEW Public Affairs

They stand in the blistering sun, retreating to their shacks when traffic dies down, staying ever-vigilant against the possible threats trying to break through their barriers. Airmen deployed with the 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron are the gate keepers protecting Air Force assets in place at Balad Air Base, Iraq.

Airmen tasked to secure entry control points face the challenges of their deployed location head on.

"When I get to my post, it's between 110 and 120 degrees," said Senior Airman Pamela Bolton, 332nd ESFS member. "Sometimes the air conditioning is broken and I can only hope we're not in uniform condition three. Many times you're at an

ECP by yourself, so you can't take long breaks. There is too much traffic, both vehicle and pedestrian."

After explaining the hardships of their deployed location, Airman Bolton is quick to point out that 332nd ESFS Airmen know how important their job is.

"We are security for the flight line here as well as the Air Force housing area," she said. "Without our security procedures, there could be a threat to Air Force resources."

As vehicles pass through entry control points, security forces members check individuals' badges to ensure they have access to the areas they're traveling to and make sure they have their required escorts, if needed.

"With a number of local

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Always on scene



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Aeromedical evacs save lives



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Handling weapons



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Total force, joint, Coalition team synergy in CAOC

By Staff Sqt. Chvenne A. Griffin U.S. Central Command Air Forces Forward Public **Affairs**

SOUTHWEST ASIA - The Central Air Forces Combined Air Operations Center is a true Total Force, joint and Coalition team, staffed by active-duty, Guard and Reserve forces from the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, and Coalition partners – including air force and army elements from Australia, Japan, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Republic of Korea, and

"The partnership between the people of these great nations and services is solid," said Lt. Gen. Walter E. Buchanan, III, Combined Forces Air Component Commander. "It is based on a shared commitment to peace and freedom."

The capability created by this advanced operations center has changed the next generation of warfare and furthered the commitment to the Global War on Terrorism. The CAOC - both team members and equipment – became fully operational Feb. 18, 2003 and stands as the only warfighting Coalition operations center of its kind currently in the Southwest Asia theater of operations.

On an average day, Coalition members at the CAOC control approximately 70 combat sorties, 30 combat support sorties, 140 airlift sorties, and 40 tanker sorties. Many of these sorties provide protection to Coalition ground forces, support ground force operations, and deter attacks on people and infrastructure in Afghanistan and

Inter-service rivalries, proud national histories, language barriers and different ways to do the same thing occur on a daily basis, but nothing has proved insurmount-

"Where the rubber meets the road it's all serious," said Lt. Col. Tom W. McKnight, deputy Marine Corps liaison officer. "Interservice rivalry is part of interservice pride and I'd be disappointed if there wasn't a little bit of good natured

pride in the workplace."

That pride and morale serves the joint and Coalition operations officers well as they maintain a round-the-clock presence and serve as liaisons between their nations' headquarters and Central Command headquarters elements, along with monitoring, scheduling, executing, and supporting their assets in theater in support of Combined Forces Air Component Command's intent and objectives. All the while they ensure compliance with their owning nation, host nation, CENTCOM, and CENTAF policies and rules of engagement.

"This is very much a joint and Coalition fight," said Brig. Gen. Allen G. Peck, Deputy Combined Forces Air Component Commander. "Joint Force Commanders set the operational objectives and airpower has a key role in achieving those objectives - all of which could not be done without robust, 24/7 operations and intelligence coordination, synchronization, and fusion in the CAOC."

As a service for Balad Airmen, the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing operates the Commander's Action Line program. The line is a way for Balad AB members to get answers to questions or express concerns about life on

Brig. Gen. Frank Gorenc, 332nd AEW commander, gives action line queries his personal attention. The Red Tail Flyer will publish those items that are judged to be of general interest to the Balad AB population. In addition to using the commander's action line, Balad Airmen are asked to remember their chain of command when dealing with problems and con-

The Commander's Action Line can be reached via e-mail at 332cc.actionline@blab.centaf.af.mil. Those using the action line should include name, unit and phone number in case additional information is needed and for a timely response.

A special thanks

Three 332nd AEW members who were key contributers to the Air Force Enlisted Village fundraiser were not pictured in last week's edition of the Red Tail Flyer. The 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing command chief would like to thank Mater Sgts. Amy Spence and Eric Gilhart and Senior Airman Pete Xerri for their contributions.

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Danie Parvin

727th Expeditionary Air Control Squadron

Charles Arata Nathan Bonds **Daniel Cheston** Jason Diemer Tyler Hand Jason Hood John Moore Carlos Perez III Krista Riefle

Shon Spencer

Wilmer Tiburicio

Denise White

Firefighters prepared when disaster strikes

By Senior Airman **Shaun Emery** 332nd AEW Public Affairs

When there's an emergency, they're on the scene protecting Air Force lives and resources. But firefighters here do more than just battle flames; their inspections and training programs are tools they use to prevent the emergencies that pose risks to fellow Airmen.

"We provide aircraft crash rescue and structural firefighters 24 hours a day, seven days a week," said Tech. Sgt. George Stacey, 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron assistant chief of fire protection. "We are the first responders for emergency medical calls, but most importantly, we keep Balad safe from fire with a strong fire prevention program."

When Airman 1st Class Paul Bradford, a member of the fire protection rescue crew, arrives on scene, it's his job to make sure everyone is out of the facility and if they're not, to get them out. Rescue teams are trained to help people in a variety of situations, from pilot extraction in an aircraft emergency to confined space extraction.

"We can even repel down the tower to rescue someone if ground exits are blocked off," he said.

As first responders, fire protection crews often put themselves in harm's way, said Sergeant Stacey.

"In the event of an alarm red situation where personnel are possibly injured, you tend to forget about your personal safety because you have a job to do," he said.

The summer heat and stress on generators have kept the fire



Courtesy photo

Firefighters from the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron contain a garbage truck fire.

department busy this rotation, Sergeant Stacey added.

"The heat is causing a lot of generators to overload," he said. "In some cases the wiring hasn't been up to standard, which has caused a few fires."

Trying to avoid possible emergencies, the fire department conducts numerous inspections to locate areas of concern. They check for bad outlets and wiring, identify hazardous materials and proper storage areas and make sure there are adequate escape routes and fire extinguishers available for personnel if needed.

Not all emergencies can be predicted and not all are the same, Sergeant Stacey added; therefore it is important that firefighters not get complacent.

"Nothing is routine here, so we are constantly training," he said. "With the help of some great noncommissioned officers, we are preparing our Airmen to face everything."

Staff Sgt. Phillip Clark, 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, practices a vehicle extraction using a combanation tool during an exercise here. Firefighters train continuously so they're prepared for any emergency situation that arises.



Aeromedical evacuation key to saving lives

By Master Sgt. **Christopher Haug** 332nd AEW Public Affairs

In battle, one of the hardest challenges faced is saving the lives of those wounded. This is difficult because medical professionals are faced with injuries not normally seen in peacetime and many times are faced with multiple life-threatening injuries that have to be treated simultaneously.

To solve these problems, military aeromedical planners developed what is now an efficient medical evacuation system that moves patients from where they were injured to definitive care as quickly and safely as possible. The patient also receives the best possible care available all the way along the route, said Lt. Col. Jose Soto, chief nurse from the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group contingency aeromedical staging facility.

Military members in Iraq rely on a joint medical evacuation system using Army and Air Force medical professionals spread out all along the route. Aeromedical evacuation professionals escort injured from Army clinics on the battlefield to the Air Force theater hospital here. The patients are stabilized for flight at the AFTH and then flown to Europe and finally to Stateside hospitals.

"The process is so efficient that we literally have been able to move patients within minutes of their injury to the first echelon of care at Army field clinics and within hours to the Air Force theater hospital here," said Lt. Col. Laurie Hall, AFTH chief nurse. "If we are able to stabilize the patient quickly enough, we can even have that patient on their way to more definitive care at Landstuhl [Regional Medical Center, Germany] within twelve hours, sometimes even less than that."

For Army Spec. Brian Scaramuzzo, assigned to the 57th Transportation Company, Taqqadum, Iraq, the care is just "awesome." "The helicopter was there to pick us up less than 25 minutes after the accident," he said. "They flew us from one helicopter to the next until we reached the [Air Force theater] hospital."

Specialist Scaramuzzo, a native of Wakefield, Mass., sustained deep cuts in both legs when his 5-ton truck flipped on its side while driving in a convoy from Al Asad, Iraq, to Taqqadum.

Sometimes stabilizing a patient requires a neurosurgeon to work simultaneously with an orthopedic doctor in the operating room, according to Colonel Hall, and sometimes even while another patient is having surgery in the next bed.

Airlifting patients out of the war zone is a whole other set of challenges, coordinated by the people assigned to the CASF here

Officials commanding the CASF coordinate with several medical and aeromedical evacuation elements throughout the world to ensure each patient receives the proper care and movement throughout the theater. They ensure patients are medically and administratively prepared for intertheater flights.

Aboard the aircraft, aeromedical evacuation teams work with aircrews to configure the plane for patient movement and pro-

vide care to patients while in flight. If there is a critically injured patient, critical care air transport teams are added to the mix.

"These CCATTs are dedicated to care for the most critical patients," said Colonel Soto. "The patient, equipment and CCATT are moved directly to the aircraft from the intensive care unit at the Air Force theater hospital. Each team has three members – a doctor, an intensive care nurse and an enlisted respiratory technician."

While the process for evacuating patients has progressed over the ages, "never has military medicine been able to save so many as they can now," said Major David Ball, 791st Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron flight clinical coordinator from Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

Air Mobility Command officials report that as of July 8, the AE system had flown more than 27,681 patients out of Central Command contingency areas into Europe since the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Of these, only 4,982 were classified as battle injuries. Approximately 79 percent of the battle-injured required critical care equipment and CCATTs.



Photo Senior Airman Tim Beckhai

332nd Expeditionary Medical Group contingency aeromedical staging facility medical technicians and volunteers from Balad load litter patient U.S. Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Lorphy Bourque, assigned here, aboard a U.S. Air Force C-130 aircraft.

Keeping 'em locked and loaded

by Senior Airman Shaun Emery 332nd AEW Public Affairs

Handling their share of weapons every day, members of the 332nd **Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron** armory provide security forces members and third country national/local national escorts the tools they need to complete their mission.



Staff Sgt. David Skuta, 332nd **Expeditionary Security Forces** Squadron armory NCOIC, performs maintenance on a weapon.

Armory personnel control all weapons for security forces members and TCN/LN escorts here. As TCN/LN escorts arrive early in the morning to pick up their weapons and ammo, armory members track every movement. When security forces flights arm up for duty, amory personnel track it.

"We have a bead on every weapon that goes in and out of our armory," said Staff Sgt. David Skuta, armory noncommissioned officer in charge. "We also maintain all the weapons in the wing."

Sergeant Skuta has the training to take a weapon apart, replace broken or worn parts and put the weapon back together. Although every member is responsible for cleaning and maintaining their weapons on a weekly basis, there are situations where his training comes in handy.

"There are some instances where we need to order parts to ensure our Airmen have a working weapon in hand," he said.

With security such a high priority here, a broken weapon could be costly.

"We arm up the quick reaction forces that go after the bad guys after an attack," he said. "We have to be able to get working weapons to them on a moment's notice so they can complete their mission."

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nationals and third country nationals doing work around base, security forces members working ECPs need to check and double check everyone trying to gain access," said Tech. Sgt. Brian Lamasney, 332nd ESFS flight chief.

Aside from environmental factors, Airman Bolton said security forces members also have to deal with the occasional person who is in a hurry or doesn't feel he or she has the time to stop and be checked.

"This is a busy place and people are rushing around doing very important missions," said Airman Bolton. "Sometimes it's hard to do our job when we face people who think we're holding them up."

But by doing their job, they're keeping those same people safe.

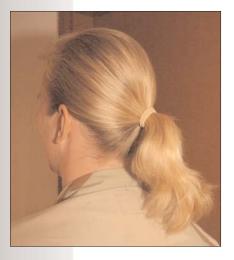
"What they're doing is so important," said Sergeant Lamasney. "Without their vigilance, Air Force resources could be compromised."



Female hair will not extend in length on all sides below an invisible line drawn parallel to the ground at the bottom edge of the shirt collar at the back of the neck. Hair will not exceed three inches in bulk or prevent proper wear of headgear. Regulation can be found in AFI36-2903, chapter 1 section 4, personal grooming standards.



Right



Wrong



Persistence key to winning war

By Maj. Matt Martin 46th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron commander

The Predator is a persistent airplane. Hour after hour, day after day, the unblinking eye of the Predator stares down at the enemy. If you never look away, it's only a matter of time before the enemy betrays his capabilities and his intentions. The only trick then is to find him.

Persistent observation brings knowledge, and with knowledge you can take effective action. We call it "actionable intelligence" and it's how we're going to win this war on terror.

But shouldn't all our actions be effective? knowledge always come before action? And isn't it acting without thinking that gets us into trouble?

The Predator's eye may be unblinking but the human eye is not. If our goal is to understand the world around us so that we can take the most effective action, how can any one of us achieve the same kind of persistence as a machine?

The answer lies in a deeper understanding of the machine. While the Predator appears to be persistent, the truth is that it's only as persistent as we've decided to make it. Sure the airplane can fly for a long time and the cameras can point at a target for a long time, but it takes pilots to fly it, it sensor operators to point the cameras, maintainers to keep it running, and so on. So the way the Predator achieves persistence in combat is through the teamwork of Airmen. And it's this same teamwork that can make all our actions effective. It's just a question of will.

Your buddies, your comrades, are going to see things you can't. They're going to be in places where you can't be and they're going to see things you may only hear about. In the business of war, individual observations are all pieces of intelligence – each one taken on its own doesn't mean much.

It's only when fused together into a coherent picture does the intel take on any meaning, and that's the guide for action. If we act based on an incomplete picture (which is sometimes necessary) we shouldn't be surprised when things don't work out as we expected.

The Predator gives us real-time imagery which allows us to take immediate action. But that action is also guided by our experience and the lessons we've learned about the enemy. The real-time information alone is not enough.

Likewise in each of our jobs we're guided not just by our experiences, but by the tech data and the regulations which are the embodiment of the knowledge of those who have come before us. Those are the lessons of wars and exercises past.

We all have the duty to look for better ways of doing business and increasing our combat capability, and to staff changes to the regs when appropriate. That way our successors can benefit from our persistence, our fusion of intel.

Some day, years from now, each one of us going will try to make sense of everything we've seen and done here. We're going to want to put things into perspective. If you wait until then to seek out the observations and experiences of your comrades, you may find that it's impossible to put the whole picture together. So I challenge you to do that now. Treat your TDY not as a sentence to be served but as an opportunity to learn, and maybe even make a difference.

And don't just rely on the experiences of others. Reflect on your own observations. Soldiers and Airmen in great wars have often kept journals and written letters and those documents are part of our literary heritage. I encourage you to do the same. In the years to come, our experiences will be just as important to us as the politics and the grand strategy of war – more, even.

In a sense, the trickiest part of producing actionable intelligence – finding the enemy – has already been done for us. We're here and we each have a job to do. So now we have only to work together as a team, share our observations, and fuse the intelligence. After that, finding meaning, taking action and winning the war becomes a whole lot easier.

Combined Army and Air Force Chapel Choirs Music

Concert is tonight at 7 p.m. at the East MWR facility.

Balad AB Religious Schedule

Sundays 7:30 a.m. Hospital, 9:30 a.m. Provider Chapel, 10 a.m. Freedom Chapel Protestant - Gospel Sundays
11 a.m. - Sustainer Indoor Theater, 11:30 Freedom Chapel, 7 p.m. - Provider Chapel **Protestant- Praise and Worship** Sundays 9:30 a.m. Sustainer Indoor Theater, 5:30 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel, 6:30 p.m. MWR Tent 29th SPT BN Sundays and Wednesdays

7 p.m. Freedom Chapel **Protestant - Contemporary**

10 a.m. 299th FSB Tent Chapel, 11 a.m. Town Hall **Latter Day Saints**

1p.m. Provider Chapel, 7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel Liturgical- Protestant 8 a.m. Provider Chapel

Samoan Congregational Service Sundays 4 p.m. Provider Chapel Mondays - Fridays: 7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel Wednesdays 11 a.m. Air Force Hospital 5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (4:45 p.m. Reconciliation) Sundays 8:30 a.m. Freedom Chapel, 9 a.m. Tuskegee Chapel, 11 a.m. Provider Chapel, 3:30 p.m. "626" Chapel (for Special Ops personnel only) **Church of Christ** Sunday Aviation Village 1, 1-245 ATS/Conf. room Islamic Praver Fridays 13:30 p.m. Provider Chapel Jewish Prayer

6:30 p.m Provider Chapel Annex

Meet your neighbor



Photo by Senior Airman Shaun Emery

Airman 1st Class Steven Lewis

Home station: Shaw Air Force Base, S.C. **Unit:** 332nd Expeditionary Operations Support

Squadron Intelligence office **Hobbies:** Football, cards

How do you contribute to the mission?
I debrief Air Mobility Command aircrews on

their flights.

What is your favorite aspect of deployment?

I like the food here.

Besides your family, what do you miss back home?

I miss the beach.

Know what this is?

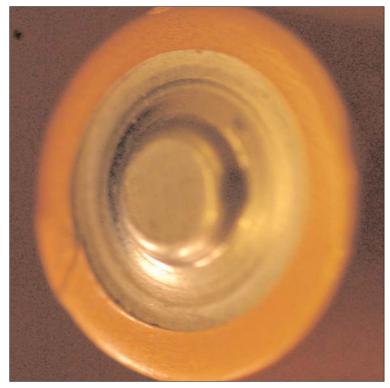


Photo by Senior Airman Tim Beckham

If you can identify the object, send us an e-mail at redtailflyer@blab.centaf.af.mil. There were no correct guesses of last week's photo of the top of a water bottle.

Sustainer movie schedule



Schedule is subject to change —

Today

3 p.m. - Deuce Bigalow 2

6 p.m. - Deuce Bigalow 2

9 p.m. - Deuce Bigalow 2

Saturday, August 13

3 p.m. - Kicking and Screaming

6 p.m. - Crash

9 p.m. - The Island

Sunday, August 14

3 p.m. - Deuce Bigalow 2

6 p.m. - Batman Begins

9 p.m. - Stealth

Monday, August 15

3 p.m. - Batman Begins

6 p.m. - Duece Bigalow 2

9 p.m. - Stealth

Tuesday, August 16

3 p.m. - Dukes of Hazzard

6 p.m. - Longest Yard

9 p.m. - Batman Begins

Wednesday, August 17

3 p.m. - Crash

6 p.m. - Star Wars: Episode III

9 p.m. - Deuce Bigalow 2

Thursday, August 18

3 p.m. - Batman Begins

6 p.m. - Stealth

9 p.m. - Batman Begins

